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the Governor cutting the Legislature, is going to introduce a bill like this for the Governor and argue in behalf of it when he knows that everybody is trying to shackle and cripple this body.

This is the most essential part of the government to my way of thinking because I'm a part of it. But there are reasons other than that for it being important. This is the policy-making body of the state.

If you would read that Constitution that we've talked about in the past you would understand the importance of the State Legislature. Nobody is advocating that the city cease to function and function everyother year, or that the counties cut the amount of time they need in half. Yet the U.S. Constitution recognizes only two governments--the federal government and the state government. The U.S. Constitution mentions legislatures by name, but it doesn't mention the city council, it doesn't mention the county board and you're going to demean something like this.

There are legislators in this body who, in order to play to the galleries and the people out there who are nonreaders and don't understand what's going on, will demean themselves. But I'm not going to demean myself. They will shortchange themselves and deminish their own value, but I'm not going to shortchange and deminish my own value. I'm not in a position to speak of anybody elses value, though, as I come to think of it. I guess every man knows best what he's worth, every man knows what he's capable of and he knows the value to place on the work that he does.

This body ought to meet every year. As for increases in expenditures, I imagine if you check the Governors office and the budget that he has it probably cost him more money to operate his office in 1976 then it did in 1972 but nobody thinks of that. The Governor can crack his whip and say "Get the Legislature out of session" and he can find somebody to come over here and say "Go out of session". Not me, I'll oppose it. I have an understanding of what Legislatures are for. I have some degree of historical perspective.

One of the favorite practices of Governors in the old days of the colonies was when the Legislature got out of line just dissolved the Legislature. The Governor cannot dissolve it now, but he's trying to get some people to go before a silly populace, an uninformed populace, a nonreading populace to say "We're going to give you a chance to vote into the Constitution your ignorance". The Constitution should not reflect ignorance. Our purpose in being in this body is not to reflect ignorance, it is to inform ourselves and make the decisions and judgements that are best for this state. How in the world are you going to have a policy-making body meeting everyother year when things are moving so fast that meeting each year you can't keep up with it? How about the federal regulations that you have to get state law in conformity with or you lose money? The Governor calls you into special session today for the highway fund so you trot down here because you gotta pass a speed limit bill then he sends you home. Then the Department of Transportation says you got to have a motorcycle helmet bill or you lose your fund, so he pops his finger and you trot down here again, obedient, compliant and in a sense trotting behind the Governor like a